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BOOK NOTICES AND REVIEWS.

May's Criminal Law. By John Wilder May. Third edition by Harry Augustus Bigelow, Assistant Professor of Law in the Law School of the University of Chicago. Little, Brown & Co., Boston, 1905. Buckram. Pages liv, 366.

Professor Bigelow's edition of May's Criminal Law is a slight enlargement upon Professor Beale's edition of 1893. Some sentences and paragraphs, and an occasional section, have been added but the general order of the second edition is unchanged. This is wise, for the arrangement by Professor Beale was logical, and a dozen years furnishes but few notable changes in the grounded principles of criminal law. Sometimes, to be sure, courts are engaged in the decision of a new refinement of principle, which has formerly been the subject of only academic discussion, but such instances are rare. Unfortunately—or fortunately—there are few variations of crime which have not long ago been passed upon by the courts. Professor Bigelow has, nevertheless, inserted some valuable additions, as, for example, section 285*a*, (on the subject of larceny in the case of bailment), 153*a*, and 155*a* (on "offences less than perjury," and "contempt"). It will be noticed, however, that even where additions have been made, it is not so much because the law has been lately developed on the several points as because the author evidently considered the former edition defective. The lists of citations are much enlarged and are brought down to date, and citations are given from three of the later case books on the subject—Chaplin, Kenny and Mikell. The author has made a few additions in presenting the general principles in the first chapters of the book which should add to its value to the student. But in the main he has held to the second edition without any great variation—though whatever changes have been made tend toward the general improvement of an already excellent work.

G. S. A.

The Rule Against Perpetuities. By John Chipman Gray, Royal Professor of Law in Harvard University. Little, Brown & Co., Boston, 1906. Law Buckram. Pages 664.

The subject of this treatise, while occupying a somewhat narrow compass in the law of property, is nevertheless of considerable importance, the courts being called upon frequently to elucidate its subtleties and refinements. The rule against perpetuities, which, the author points out, might more properly be called "the rule against remoteness," is practically all that is left to us of that vast field of feudal law inviting the creation and transfer of future estates. The rule itself, however, is in full vigor, statutes tending rather to increase its stringency than otherwise.